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Wellesley College News

XLVI WELLESLEY, MASS., OCTOBER 7, 1937 No. 2

Scholar Speaks On 'Importance'

Dr. Whitehead Scorns Abstract in Many Fields of Human Thought, Endeavor

FIRST CALKINS LECTURER

Professor Alfred North Whitehead spoke on the subject of "Importance" September 29 at 4:40 P. M. in Pendleton hall. This was the first of a series of lectures under the general title "Modes of Thought," three of which are to be given this fall and the remaining three in the spring.

In introducing the speaker, Thomas Hayes Proeter of the philosophy department acknowledged the generosity of the alumnae whose contributions have made possible this memorial to Mary Whiton Calkins—to her greatness as a thinker, teacher, and person—and to the great eminence of the lecturer.

Professor Whitehead began with the statement that civilized beings are those who survey the world in terms of large generalities. In this sense of the word, not even the higher animals, whose actions are a response to immediate and particular situations, can lay claim to civilization. It is the elaboration of general ideas that makes the difference between the civilized and uncivilized.

IMPORTANCE VERSUS FACTS

In this lecture, Professor Whitehead set forth the two contrasting notions, importance and its seeming antithesis, matters of fact. Those who concentrate on matters of fact for pure fact's sake, become immersed in detail. The others who seek generality and precise definitions reach empty platitudes too obvious to mention. These two tendencies lead equally to mere abstract thinking.

Professor Whitehead emphasized especially that there are no matters of fact apart from some notion of im-

(Continued on Page 3, Col. 3)

BATES FUND ANNOUNCES POETS' READING DATES

Kenneth Leslie Reods First in Series Followed by Hillyer, Low, Benet; Eunice Smith Gove Fund

The dates of the Katharine Lee Bates poets' readings are not quite complete, but the following have been definitely settled: Kenneth Leslie, October 18; Robert Hillyer, October 25; Margaret Law, November 1. There will be a reading by Stephen Vincent Benét, which may be on October 11, but will probably come later; and possibly another reading later in the year.

Mr. Leslie is the only newcomer on our list. The most recent of his four volumes of poetry, *Windward Rock*, received high praise from discriminating critics. "Whether he is drawing an unusual portrait, as in *The Candy-Maker*, or setting a man's talk to the rhythm of a train as in *The Shanachie Man*, he convinces us," said the *London Times Literary Supplement*, "that he has broken through the conventional to something that is burningly alive."

OLD FRIENDS REAPPEAR

Mr. Hillyer needs no introduction to the older members of the college, who have often enjoyed the unusually delightful reading of his musical poems. His newest book, just out, is of verse satires, most of which have appeared in the *Atlantic* and the *Saturday Review of Literature*. Miss Law is our alumna poet for this year; since she read here several years ago, she has published two books of verse, one of them on Nova Scotian themes.

The Katharine Lee Bates fund for poets' readings was established some sixteen years ago by Miss Eunice Smith, '98. Miss Bates, at that time our senior professor of English litera-

(Continued on Page 6, Col. 1)

JUNIOR SHOW WILL BE GIVEN ON NOVEMBER 5 INSTEAD OF THE DATE ORIGINALLY PLANNED.

China Faces Japan At Forum Dinner

Betty Anderson will Present Japanese Viewpoint, and Dzoe-ts Woo, Chinese

For the first time in the history of Wellesley a *student* sponsored dinner-current-events discussion under Forum will take place at Claflin hall on Wednesday evening, October 13. The subject will be the Sino-Japanese conflict. Miss Margaret M. Ball of the department of history and political science will lead the discussion with a short resumé of the international aspects of the situation. After this introduction Dzoe-ts Woo '38 will present the side of China while Betty Anderson '38 will give Japan's point of view. Following the speeches there will be an opportunity for general discussion.

Members of the faculty and all students are invited to attend but admission will be only by ticket. Tickets are limited to 90 and may be procured free of charge at the ticket booth in Green hall on Monday and Tuesday, October 11 and 12, between the hours of 8:30 A. M. - 3:30 P. M. Dinner will be at 6:15 and with the serving of after dinner coffee the discussion will begin. For those unable to get tickets the doors will be opened at 6:45 in order that they may hear the discussion. There will be a break at 7:30 for those who wish to leave, but the discussion will continue.

This is the first of a series of current-events discussions under the sponsorship of Forum. Forum emphasizes the fact that non-members as well as old and new members of Forum are welcome. It is not necessary to have a knowledge of current affairs, but those interested can read back *New York Times* and *Foreign Policy Bulletins*.

MISS LOUISE McDOWELL REPRESENTS WELLESLEY

Physics Professor Attends Cornell's Fifth Inauguration Ceremony; Dr. E. Doy New President

When Cornell university inaugurates its fifth president, Dr. Edmund Ezra Day, on October 8, Wellesley will be represented by Professor Louise Sherwood McDowell, Professor of physics, delegate of Wellesley.

The presidents of the three institutions with which Dr. Day was associated as an undergraduate, professor and administrator will deliver addresses. They are President Ernest M. Hopkins of Dartmouth college, where Dr. Day received his baccalaureate and master's degrees; President James B. Conant of Harvard university, where Cornell's new president rose to the head of the department of economics; President Alexander G. Ruthven of the University of Michigan, where Dr. Day organized and became first dean of the school of business administration.

MISS JOHNSON WILL ACT AS PRESIDENT OF '38

Lucille Johnson was elected president pro tem of the class of 1938 at a recent class meeting. She was vice-president of her class junior year.

This election was necessary due to the temporary resignation of Mary Bruce Taylor from the office of president.

FRESHMAN BARN DANCE
ALUMNAE HALL
SATURDAY—OCTOBER 9
7:30 - 9:30 P. M.

WELLESLEY VIEWS AURORA

Breathless Wellesley astronomers were treated to a rare aurora display last Sunday night which made the sky look as though huge searchlight beams were playing over it as the features of the display moved slowly over the heavens.

The aurora, the brightest to be seen in many years, created much comment. Green bands with occasional touches of pink, streamers of light, and clouds with pulses of light passing over them lit the whole sky during most of the evening. As seen from Wellesley, the light converged about twenty degrees south of the zenith.

The aurorae are electrical discharges in the upper atmosphere of the earth, and they are believed to be caused by charged particles emanating from the sun. Little, however, is really known about the phenomena. In general they are most brilliant in higher latitudes because of the nearness there to the earth's magnetic pole. This particular display was unusual for its brightness, and the conspicuousness of the lights in both southern as well as northern parts of the sky. Aurorae are commonly known as the "northern lights."

Miss Thompson Will Lead C. A. Vespers

What the Christian Association is and what it should mean in college life will be the theme of Candlelight vespers Sunday, October 10, at 7:30 in Houghton Memorial chapel.

Miss Seal Thompson will lead this annual membership service. Her subject will be "The Light that Lighteth every Man." The officers of C. A. will then perform the traditional ceremony of lighting candles for everyone.

MISS WEED ATTENDS COLBY CELEBRATION

Miss Lilla Weed, Wellesley alumna and associate librarian, represented Wellesley college at the Colby junior college centennial celebration, June 10 to 13, in New London, New Hampshire.

As the Wellesley delegate, Miss Weed attended the centennial exercises, the president's reception, the trustees' dinner, and the centennial pageant history of the college. His excellency Governor Francis Murphy of New Hampshire and President James Wood of Stephens college in Missouri were among the speakers at the centennial exercises. Among Miss Weed's fellow delegates were distinguished members of the faculties of leading educational institutes and colleges in the United States.

POETRY SOCIETY PLANS TALK ON NEWER TRENDS

"New trends in Poetry and the Works of New Poets" will be the subject of the Poetry club at its first meeting Friday, October 8, at 7:45 in the Shakespeare house.

Miss Elizabeth Manwaring will lead the informal program. New members who are interested in poetry will be welcome at this open meeting.

ATTENTION, JOURNALISTS!
COLLEGE NEWS TRYOUTS
EDITORIAL BOARD
MEET FOUNDERS 124
4:40 P. M., OCTOBER 8

BUSINESS BOARD
SEE BULLETIN BOARD
OUTSIDE
136 GREEN—OCTOBER 8

Panels Discuss 'Constitution'

Prof. T. R. Powell of Harvard Law will Talk on Aspects of Written Document

GRADUATES TO BE GUESTS

Students, Alumnae, and Faculty will Join in Round Table Groups Which Mark Celebration

The one hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the framing of the constitution of the United States is being celebrated throughout the length and breadth of the land this autumn. Wellesley will mark the event by a series of lectures and round table discussions dealing with the subject of the constitution, conducted by Professor Thomas Reed Powell under the auspices of the department of history and political science. Professor Powell, formerly a member of the faculty of the Columbia Law school, now teaches at the Harvard law school, where he is known as a brilliant and penetrating lecturer. He is a leading authority on American constitutional law and has published many books in the field including *Separation of Powers* and *Indirect Encroachment on Federal Authority by the Taxing Powers of the States*. His volume entitled *The Supreme Court and State Police Power* has become a classic.

A group of alumnae who are especially interested in civic affairs will be the guests of the college during the period of Professor Powell's lectures and will be invited to take part in the discussions along with members of the faculty and the student body. It is believed that such a group will help to revitalize the subject matter and afford an opportunity for undergraduates to become acquainted with graduates who have found satisfying careers in law, politics, governmental work, and civic affairs.

Professor Powell's lectures will be delivered under the general title, "Some Ways of a Written Constitution," with their subtitles they are scheduled as follows:

Monday, November 15, Pendleton hall, 7:30 P. M., "Charted Course and Political Currents."

Tuesday, November 16, Pendleton hall, 8:30 P. M., "The Aristocracy of the Robe."

Wednesday, November 17, Pendleton hall, 7:30 P. M., "Contemporary Issues."

Professor Powell will conduct a discussion of the subject matter of the lectures directly after their delivery on Monday, November 15, and Wednesday, November 17, from 8:30 to 9:30 P. M.

DR. SALINAS RECEIVES DEGREE AT MIDDLEBURY

Middlebury college at its summer commencement conferred the degree of Litt.D. on Dr. Pedro Salinas, formerly catedrático of the University of Madrid and director of the Universidad de Verano in Santander, who has served during the past year as Mary Whiton Calkins visiting professor in Wellesley college. Dr. Salinas' ability received last year the recognition of an invitation to deliver the Turnbull Poetry lectures at Johns Hopkins university and to conduct a seminar in the same institution during 1937-38.

Philosopher Emphasizes Need For Character In Teaching Profession

Enseonced in a study with shelves of books for walls, the modest scholar, Alfred North Whitehead, receives those guests who seek the company of the philosopher of the times. This man, whose small stature belies the fact of his colossal mind, greeted your humble reporter with all the graciousness of the perfect host. Unaware of the amazed impression created in the mind of his visitor by the veritable walls of books, he led her into the room, introducing a conversation about her recently completed western trip.

To one who has just travelled in the western United States, the philosopher's purely imaginary conception of the American continent is a revelation. Never having travelled beyond the middle western states, in his lecturing, Dr. Whitehead yet has acquired that sense of the vast spaces so representative of our great American continent. He thoroughly enjoys the notion which he has of living in a continent.

Speaking of the "miracle of political unity" which is the United States, he marvels at the fact that a country our size has not long since degenerated into a continent of petty states. Dr. Whitehead attributes this miracle of unity to the political judgment of our forefathers in creating this state. Thus, in mere casual observance, the Englishman lays stress upon a condition which our citizens habitually ignore.

Our conversation took a more academic turn, when Dr. Whitehead made reference to his work at Harvard university, where he has lectured each year until his retirement from active teaching last June. Taking account of the academic freedom which is permitted in the modern university, he emphasized the necessity for strong character in the art of teaching. Utter freedom may certainly be allowed within the subject, but the philosopher feels that this freedom of speech and idea should be conditioned by tact and good manners.

In the classroom, Dr. Whitehead feels that the student is burdened with sufficient complications by the mere complexity of new subject matter, without adding the additional confusion of extraneous propaganda and personal opinion. However, under the present system of academic freedom, all teachers cannot confine themselves to the immediate limits of their subject. Here is where the need for strong character and academic integrity enters the field.

After class, the philosopher admits he is willing to "follow the student into whatever fields his questioning may lead him." Evidence as to the sincerity of this last assertion, your reporter witnessed in her own visit to Dr. Whitehead. He not only evinced interest in whatever subject she broached, but he was more interested in hearing her opinion than in expressing his own—the honest attitude of the true scholar.

New Paint Transforms Old Campus Buildings

Since newcomers to the college and more or less preoccupied upperclassmen have been taking too much for granted the present glories of the Wellesley campus, the following facts are presented for general consideration. During the summer, (though the swimming pool remains, temporarily, a thing of the future), 80 gallons of white paint were applied to the outer surface of Eliot, 80 to Dower, 100 to Norumbega, while Fiske was completely metamorphosed by 60 gallons.

The Hazard quadrangle received special attention in the form of wall repairs and new side entrances. Shafer, in addition, acquired bathroom renovations and a kitchen sink. Less spectacular improvements include a new roof on the power house, a brick garage and tool house.

There comes a point when tradition must bow to progress. This summer has seen the passing of the last horse from the Wellesley campus, and, last but not least, the dismantling of the barn. Fears have been voiced that alumnae Barnswallows may consider this destruction of the nature of sacrilege. To soften any such blow, and that future students may not be entirely unaware of what was once one of Wellesley's best loved buildings, a safe place is being found on the Wellesley campus for the permanent display of the weather vane and tower of the old Durant barn.

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FORD HALL FORUM WILL OFFER NOTED LECTURERS

Season to Open Oct. 30 with Lecture by Stuart Chase on Chief Problems of Our Age

Have you ever been to a Ford Hall Forum? Since Wellesley is so conveniently located near Boston, students will have the chance of hearing world famous people speak on matters of current interest. That is chiefly what the Ford Hall Forum stands for: talks by noted economists, philosophers, authors, and psychologists which are followed by discussions. Some of the persons scheduled to speak are: Klaus Mann, son of the novelist Thomas Mann, Sir Norman Angell, S. K. Ratcliffe, Vicki Baum, and Senator Robert M. La Follette. Stuart Chase, economist and author, will open the thirtieth season of Ford hall on Sunday evening, October 17, when he speaks on "The Chief Problem of Our Generation."

A schedule of the lectures to follow will be posted on the Forum board in Founders hall, onside the C. A. office. Edith Iglauer '38 will be glad to furnish more information on these discussions.

BARN ELECTS ADVISER, MR. T. H. VAIL MOTTER

An important innovation was made on Saturday evening at the Barn reception when Virginia Spangler '38 introduced Mr. T. H. Vail Motter as faculty adviser to the drama committee.

Miss Spangler said that Barn had felt the need of such advice, and that Mr. Motter, as professor of English literature, and as an authority on the drama, was peculiarly qualified to act in his new capacity.

Preceding the play Mr. Motter spoke for a few minutes commending the choice of play. He said that Barn was going to try to emulate the Renaissance attitude toward the function of drama—namely, to both entertain and instruct.

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Out From Dreams and Theories

The Personnel Bureau extends a welcome to the class of 1941 and in doing so wishes to answer the very natural question put by new arrivals: What is the Personnel Bureau? This is best done by an outline of the activities carried on by that office.

Historically the Personnel Bureau goes back to the early years of the college when the Teachers' registry was established by the founder. Later it was called the Appointment Bureau, and later still the Personnel Bureau when the general personnel work was emphasized rather than placement.

Aspects of the work of the Personnel Bureau:

1. This column, *Out from Dreams and Theories*, devoted, week by week, to articles, notices, letters, interviews dealing with vocational matters.
2. A program of lectures and field trips on occupations.
3. A special reading room at 242 Green hall where there are books and pamphlets on various occupations.
4. Administration of personality and aptitude tests.
5. A cumulative record of each student, giving her activities, preferences, vocational interests, grades, etc.
6. Information about scholarships and training courses of all kinds.
7. Placement of undergraduates in part-time and summer positions.
8. Placement of seniors and alumnae in all kinds of positions.
9. The occupational index, giving the vocational histories of about 6,000 of our alumnae.

All students are most cordially invited to come to the Personnel Bureau at any time for information, or to talk over plans for training, or for suggestions in regard to any aspect of vocational work in Wellesley or outside of the college. The reading room is open until 4:30 P. M.

Student Employment

The attention of new students is called to the service offered by the Personnel Bureau for securing part-time work. Students are invited to register as soon as possible in room 242, Green hall. Students who registered last year should register again if they wish to have their names retained on the list. If any students have secured work independently, they are asked to report to the Personnel Bureau.

Office hour: Monday - Friday, 11-12 a. m.

Edith A. Sprague
Appointment Secretary
Personnel Bureau

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MISS COOLIDGE READS FRESHMAN HONOR LIST

21 Students Attain Highest Rating of Scholarship as Freshmen; 64 Reach Second Rating

Dean Mary L. Coolidge, in the first formal chapel of the year, on Saturday morning, September 25, announced the following list of sophomore honors:

First Group

Dorothy Blum, Marilyn L. Evans, Retta Lou Gelling, Margaret H. Gilkey, Natalie Grow, Harriet Hill, Barbara N. Hutton, Rebecca P. Jackson, Edna O. Jeffrey, Dorothy G. Jones, Jeannette Lowe, Marjorie E. Noppel, Grace S. Person, Elizabeth G. Potterton, Barbara Scott, Lucile Sheppard, Susan S. Swartz, L. Constance Tuttle, Nancy R. Waite, Ann Winship, Elizabeth S. Young.

Second Group

Margaret O. Bell, Elizabeth B. Bicrer, Lillian R. Blake, Bernice R. Block, Shirley Bob, Ruby D. Boleyn, Rita M. Brand, Emily K. Browning, Katharine Buchanan, Anne V. Bulkley, Natalie Bussey, Caroline F. Carder, Janet Chase, Sarah C. Clarke, Margaret P. Colmore, Olive Crowell, Jean P. Cumming, Charlotte M. Damron, Ruth B. Dennis, Betty Edwards, Carolyn P. Elley, M. Eleanor Finger, Barbara J. Ford, Alicia E. Gallagher, Eleanor M. Garvey, Clarice J. Grosshandler, Helen G. Hartz, Mary S. Hayes, Shirley Heidenberg, Louise W. Howe, Helene Kazanjian, Mary F. Latimer, Carol J. Lewis, Margaret Lodi, Natalie C. Maiden, Jane W. Mayhew, Antoinette H. Meyer, Margaret M. Mitchell, Christine Mullergren, Ann C. Myers, Ruth H. Nehring, J. Marva Peterson, Jeanne Pope, Jean C. Rearick, Ellen F. Regan, Elizabeth W. Remick, Eleanor L. Rodgers, Alice H. Sanderson, Martha L. Schwanke, Deborah G. Selin, Lydia I. Solimene, Dorothy J. Southmayd, Juliette S. Sternfeld, Jane Strahan, Marguerite N. Swift, Mary Phil Taylor, Joan A. Wagner, Mary R. Walling, Elizabeth Weeks, Ann P. Wheeler, Rosemary White, Julia Whiteside, Betty J. Wright, Carolyn E. Wysor.

C. A. NOTES

Sino-Japanese Situation

Dr. Reinhold Niebuhr last Sunday afternoon at Agora discussed the Sino-Japanese problem in relation to his main theme, "Religious and Moral Judgments of Evil Men and Nations," and he showed how the problem of American neutrality in the Oriental struggle involved the eternal choice between two or more courses of action, neither of which is wholly good or wholly evil.

The following eminent speakers will come to Wellesley for Sunday afternoon talks this year: Dr. H. P. VanDusen, Dr. A. L. Kinsolving, Dr. John A. Mackay, Dr. Leslie Glenn, and Dr. C. W. Gilkey.

Volunteer Bureau

Mrs. C. M. Donovan, secretary of the Volunteer bureau of the Boston Council of Social agencies, will be at Wellesley Friday, October 8, at 4:40 p. m. in the C. A. lounge. She will talk to all those interested in social service.

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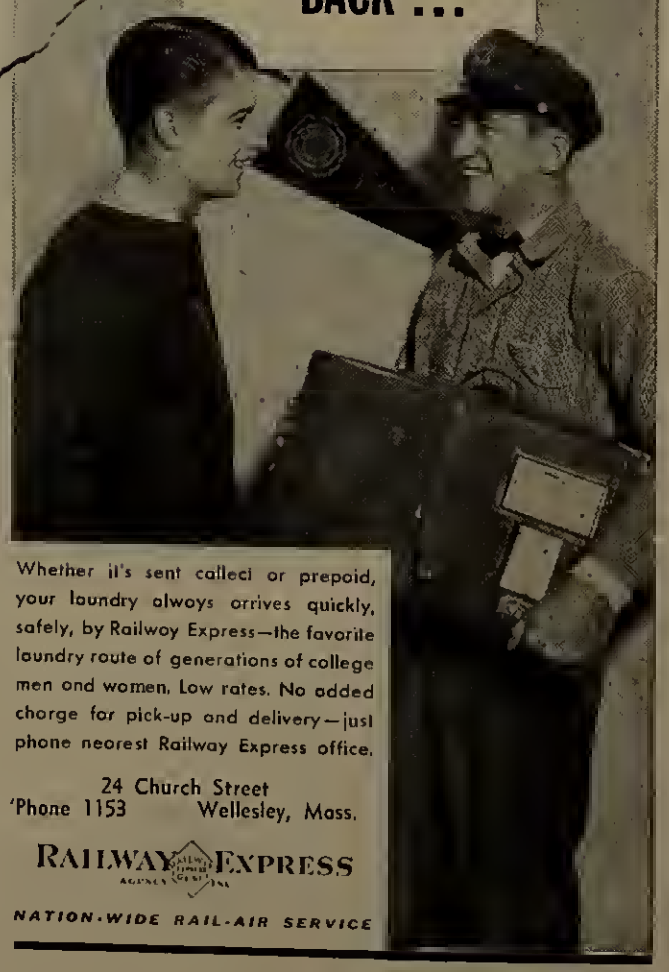

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THE PEREGRINATING PRESS

PERRY was glad to find that it's not only the students who find Wellesley a place where the "gentlemen of stronger sex are few and far between." One of these few and far betweeners, a member of the faculty, was instructing his class on the neatness requirements asked by all teachers on written homework. His class was astonished to hear that in speaking of his own requirements, he put himself in the feminine gender then excused himself briefly, saying, "It's always 'she' around here."

* * *

ELATED, Perry overheard a confession on the part of an advanced comp student. In outlining her plan for the year to her instructor, the upper-classman let slip the frank remark—"I want to write many unusual stories," to which the instructor replied with equal frankness —"God bless you, I hope you do."

* * *

RETURNING from Pen hall the other day, Perry heard many observations on Professor Whitehead's lecture, but the most profound, to his way of thinking, was that of the girl who declared: "I could understand every word he said, but I just couldn't understand his sentences!"

* * *

REVEALING tales have come to Perry of '41's knack of managing their superiors. Two upperclassmen, entering the library recently, met a freshman, who demanded that they "go into the library and find a cute looking girl with short wavy hair reading a book and ask her to give it to another girl in the 'libe'—a girl with long black hair and a blue sweater. Then she will give it to me." The upperclassman actually tried to fulfill this mission.

* * *

YOUR Pressman saw in the hall of a building of this institution of learning a chair bearing the following legend: "This chair don't belong in room 405."

A still more naive junior friend of Perry's, hearing a student say that she planned to catch the 9:51 to Boston, queried, "And when does that leave?"

* * *

"HAVE some piccalilli?" asked one junior to another at the dinner table one night. The other, who was somewhat ignorant of the nature of piccalilli, answered, "I'll have some pickle but no one ever called me a lily before."

* * *

A senior, anticipating what all seniors anticipate, that little roll-call in her major subject which takes place in the beginning of June, declared in the presence of a student from another college, "In the spring I'll have to start studying for the general." "The general?" the visitor queried. "Who's he?"

* * *

WITH all due respect to the men on our faculty, Perry cannot resist this gem of gossip. Two students were strolling to class, when one turned to the other, saying wistfully, "I would like to get an 'A' in this course, but I'm just not good-looking enough."

* * *

PERRY watched an agreeable junior offer her assistance to a freshman laboriously pushing her bicycle up Norumbega hill. "Do you live in Norumbega?" the junior asked. When the freshman said "No," the junior further queried her as to her reason for pushing the bike all the way up the hill. "Why, so I can ride it down the other side," the other answered disgustedly.

* * *

AT dinner the other night Perry observed a student drop a fried scallop into her water glass. The accident was apparently ignored during the major part of the meal. Just before dessert came on, however, the maid said with much feeling—"Well, I guess it's time I removed this aquariam."

Perry the Pressman

Dr. Whitehead Talks Against Abstracts

(*Continued from Page* 1, *Col.* 1)

portance. There is always some selection of matters of fact based on a recognition of their value, their degree of relevance, and such selection must therefore involve a consideration of differences in importance. Fundamental notions such as importanee, however, cannot be defined by any language of mere fact; rather it is that aspect of feeling whereby a perspective is imposed upon a universe of detail.

Applying his theory to various fields of human thought and endeavor, Professor Whitehead criticized first of all the abstract interpretation of the physical sciences as dealing purely with matters of fact—the bare description of "the goings on of nature," utterly devoid of evaluation. This is the ideal of sheer objectivity in science which leads to a barren science too abstract to represent concrete nature, although such abstraction is entirely unobjectionable, "provided we know what we're doing." He illustrated the various ways in which the antithetical notion of importance enters into science.

Criticism of Abstract

Similarly, he criticized the interpretations of logic, art, morality, and religion which represent these sciences as dealing exclusively with importance and engaged in setting up norms without reference to matter of fact. There are, for instance, no moral codes valid throughout the whole universe and applying to every situation in general—not even the ten commandments.

Rules for conduct of family life applicable to man in a particular situation could not be applicable to fishes, nor rules for Sabbath observance, to all conditions of society. "Why must there be always one day's rest in seven, rather than in six or eight" in every conceivable society?

Modification of Morality

Thus, the whole point of view of morality is sometimes irrelevant. This does not mean that all moral principles are invalid—on the contrary it is the concern of morality to preserve the maximum importance in each special situation, but not without consideration of particular matters of fact and the relevance of general rules to special circumstances.

Professor Whitehead will deliver his second lecture on Wednesday, October 13. In view of the importance of the lectures, the college and the physics department will co-operate to install an amplifying system in Pendleton hall.

LAWRENCE APGAR OFFERS CARILLON INSTRUCTION

Provided a sufficient number of students are interested, the department of music will arrange for a course of ten class lessons in carillon playing to be given on Monday or Tuesday afternoons at 4:40 by Mr. Lawrence Apgar of Providence, R. I. The tuition fee for the course, inclusive of practice privileges, will be $5.00. Students wishing to register for the course should notify Miss Jane Burgess (music department office) by Monday noon, October 11.

Henry J. Cadbury To Discuss 'Quakerism'

Christian Association announces a new series of Thursday tea meetings.

October 14—Quakerism
October 28—Catholicism
November 11—Judaism
November 18—Protestantism
December 9—"Tie-up" Meeting

At the first meeting, next Thursday, October 14, Dr. Henry J. Cadbury will speak on "Quakerism." Dr. Cadbury is a professor of the New Testament at Harvard university, and one of the most prominent members of the Society of Friends. He has just returned from Europe where an honorary degree was conferred on him by the University of Glasgow. He has taught previously at Haverford, and the University of Chicago.

Dr. Cadbury's wife is a Wellesley alumna, and his daughter and niece are now here in the college.

Dr. Cadbury was fortunately secured as our speaker by Miss Seal Thompson of the Biblical history department. Miss Thompson wrote about the meeting, saying: "I shall be there myself as I am eager to hear Dr. Cadbury."

Tea will be served in the C. A. lounge at 4:40 P. M. Everyone is invited.

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1937 Member 1938
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Collegiate Digest

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When Your 'A' String Snaps

In a recent number of the *Reader's Digest* was told the following anecdote: "Once when Ole Bull, the great violinist, was giving a concert in Paris, his A string snapped and he transposed the composition and finished it on three strings. That is life—to have your A string snap and finish on three strings." We are at different stages in our college life, some just entering, some midway, and some beginning the last lap, but we are all engaged in preparing ourselves for just such an emergency—for the snapping of our A strings; we are developing personalities.

We have all known girls of whom it is said, "Yes, Mary Jane always stands out in a crowd. She has personality." What is meant? Mary Jane is not just pretty, or witty, or bright, or a good sport, though she may be any one of these too. Webster defines personality as "quality of being a person, personal identity; distinction of personal traits; the totality of an individual's characteristics." And this "being a person", standing out from the group as an individual is not an inherited characteristic, it is rather something that must be developed in each of us.

In the development of our personalities we need a goal, toward which to center our activities,—popularity, success in studies or in athletics. Here at Wellesley we limit ourselves still more in certain lines by choosing a major subject, keeping in mind the kind of life we wish to lead after college. We may decide on art, music, literature or a science, but whatever it may be, we build our study program about it. Since personality is the sum-total of an individual's characteristics, all our knowledge contributes to our personalities.

This is the time of year when freshmen and upperclassmen are urged to "try out for things." What? Oh, everything—Choir, NEWS, Barn, Press Board, crew, anything and everything that is open. For one who does not know her special interest this is good advice, but we must soon choose and concentrate our time and energies on those activities wherein we receive the most pleasure and benefit, for play too helps build personality.

Then, if we have chosen well in building a personality, we shall victoriously meet the crisis of the snapping of our A string and finish life on three.

Precious Liberty

In an economics, sociology or political science class one reads about such countries as Germany, Italy, and Russia where intellectual freedom is being constantly curtailed; the fact remains merely one of the many which percolates into one's consciousness during a year's course. But to go to one of these countries and come into personal contact with the intellectual narrowness fostered therein, as did many who traveled abroad this summer, is a different story; and it brings home, more vividly than could any other experience, the preciousness of the liberty of thought open to us in a college such as this.

Living the small routine existence of every day, now writing a paper, now preparing for some quiz or roll call, one loses sight of larger issues, and one's perception of what a college like Wellesley really stands for becomes dulled. In these times of war, Wellesley has been called a haven of peace. More than that, it is a haven of liberty, where in its peace and quiet one can live a free intellectual life, opening at will innumerable new vistas of knowledge.

You, 1941, have it all before you. Especially in these times, the opportunity which Wellesley offers should be a very precious one. The rah-rah days of sliding through college "without cracking a book" are long since passé; instead, one finds an intelligent awareness of what four such years may mean.

We, fortunate creatures, have not been weaned on a social ideology; we have not been dictated to as to what of the world's store of knowledge we may or may not share. Instead, the whole wealth of the past lies before us for the asking. It is up to us to ask and to receive—and thus enjoy to the dregs this freedom, one which is becoming seized in terrifying fashion from the thinking individuals in too many countries of the world today!

"On Time With Full Staff"

"Yenching will open on time with full staff" read the telegram which Miss Seal Thompson of the department of Biblical history received last week from President Stuart of Yenching college. Behind that laconic message lies a store of faith, persistence and almost unbelievable courage. In the first bombings of Peiping, Yenching buildings were not substantially injured, but no one can tell what will happen in the next few weeks of continued Japanese attacks.

The student population of Yenching will be sadly depleted, even though the staff will be there in full force. Most of the young men are fighting in the Chinese lines and many of the young women have been commandeered for volunteer service in relief centers and behind the lines on nursing duty. Whether the students from west China can even get to Peiping is doubtful. What railroad lines are still open to travel have been requisitioned for the transport of troops, animals, ammunition and supplies.

During these days of extreme tension and crisis at Yenching, Wellesley is under even greater obligation to fulfill her annual appropriation to her sister college; this year, especially, the amount we send to the Far East should be greater than it has ever been in the past. When Service Fund sends around its annual request for funds let us respond to the fullest extent. Let us make President Stuart's proud message a thing in which we, too, shall have a share.

What Of Local Politics?

Most college students are more or less interested in reaching the age of twenty-one and the privilege of voting. Those who reached the age of maturity last year were all enthusiastic about doing their part in the national election. But how many of those college men and women who took great pains to vote last year, and how many who reach the voting age this year, will exert themselves to find out about local politics and vote in local elections? Local elections are coming along all the time. It is just as much a duty of citizenship to vote in these as in national ones. Investigate your home town situation and vote.

Door Tragedy

We look down all the Wellesley halls
And spy the backs of many doors,
And where a name plate should be hung
Instead are ads from village stores.
And that's the tragedy of doors!

First from the florist comes a rose
To tell us that we all can buy
A couple of dozen any time
At prices that are not too high.
Oh what a splendid bargain buy!

Next day we find, in card plate's space,
A catalogue of varied shoes
That any Wellesley girl could buy
At prices Wellesley girls can't choose.
Oh for a pair of nice, cheap shoes!

Before the shoe store ad is down
We reach our doors, and there we see
A catalogue of winter clothes
Designed for daughters of Wellesley.
Oh for the things we'd rather see!

And so it goes for weeks on end.
The doors the same all down the hall.
And how we wish those notes were just
A message from some lad's phone call.
But no, the ad man's seen the hall!

FREE PRESS COLUMN

All contributions for this column must be signed with the full name of the author. Initials or numerals will be used if the writer so desires.

The Editors do not hold themselves responsible for opinions and statements in this column.

Contributions should be in the hands of the Editors by 11 A. M. on Monday.

The Name or the Music?

To the Wellesley College News:

Intermittent conversation around the campus indicates that many there are to whom the concert series this fall does not appeal. Because the names scheduled are not as familiar as those of previous years, students seem to feel the concerts will not be as good.

To a senior who has enjoyed three years of the Wellesley series, this attitude seems unfair. It would appear that Wellesley students go to concerts for the name of the artist, and not the music he produces.

The fairer attitude seems to this senior to be that of good faith. Here-to-fore fine concerts have been presented in Alumnae hall. Why can't the student body take it in good faith that this year's artists will be up to par?

If Wellesley wishes to continue to have good music brought within its very gates, it must evince more interest in the quality of the music and less in the popularity of the name.

1938

Barn Dance

To the Wellesley College News:

Freshmen! Have you found your welcome to Wellesley just a little bit formal? Let us show you a different side of Wellesley and introduce you and welcome you to Outing club. Outing club is having a Barn Dance just specially for you and we want every single one of you to come. Haven't you been wanting to "let yourself go" and have a wild crazy time? Well, here's your chance because that's just what we do at the Barn Dance! Come in dungarees or cotton dresses, like the good old country folk, and we'll have an honest to goodness Barn Dance (you won't know Alum!) with games, square dancing, cider and doughnuts! If possible come in couples as it will make the dancing easier but if it's not possible come anyway and find a partner there! Don't forget, Saturday, 7:30-9:30 in Alumnae hall.

Kay Kiley '38,
Publicity Committee

NEWS NOTATIONS

The Future of the Classics

Stenographers and clerks read more than any other group of people in this country, favoring books of romance and glamour, according to a survey of the reading tastes of the American public which is being made by Dr. Ralph Tyler of Ohio State university. "High school students read more than college students," but this age group reads more than adults. The classics are dropped upon graduation and lighter fiction reading becomes most popular. From these findings it is concluded that there must be something wrong in the school requirements for reading of the classics.

They do, do they?

"High school students read more than college students." We might be tempted to doubt that. Perhaps high school students do read more novels than college students, but fiction forms a small part, indeed, of the reading of the average college student. This survey, as it is carried on, will doubtless bring to light a great many more interesting facts about the reading done by the American public. We look forward to learning of further discoveries in this field.

"Blackness" in the Supreme Court

What has been termed the present "blackness" in the Supreme court does not seem to be growing perceptibly brighter as time goes on. Justice Hugo L. Black returned from Europe to a storm over his nomination to fill Justice Van Devanter's place in the court. Principally, Justice Black was accused of affiliations with the Ku Klux Klan. Refusing to make a statement to the press, the justice gave a totally unprecedented radio speech in his own defense. As a rule, such speeches must be submitted to the broadcasting company for censorship, before they go on the air. Justice Black was allowed complete freedom in this matter. His talk lasted for 11 minutes; it was to the point. He admitted having once been a member of the controversial Klan, but denied any recent association with it.

Sustained Objections

Justice Black's speech seemed final enough, and there were hopes that the whole affair would die a natural death. When the court met on Monday, however, it appeared that opposition to Mr. Black was still strong. A petition, questioning Black's right to his seat in the Supreme court, was presented by Albert Levitt, a former assistant attorney general. This petition makes no mention of the Klan, but its chief contention is that there is no vacancy on the bench, that Mr. Van Devanter is still a member of the court. Justice Van Devanter's resignation on May 18 seemed final enough, but forces seem to be against Mr. Black's becoming a Supreme Court justice.

What Is Forum?

With blackness in the Supreme court and blackness in Paris for Mr. Edward Filene, Wellesley atmosphere resounds less gloomily with talk of the Sino-Japanese war coming to a head at the first current events dinner next week. This dinner is the first of an impressive list of Forum activities for the coming year. The Forum for those would-be-Wellesley-wise is the informal channel through which the outside world seeps not infrequently.

Forum's National Affairs

Model Senate, held last year at Princeton, tops the list of national affairs with which Forum is especially concerned. Each year Wellesley sends delegates to represent assigned states in a model second chamber of the American Congress. Its affiliation with the Boston district committee of the American Student Union provides contact with the national student movement. Debating includes debates with other colleges and speaking assignments to women's clubs, church associations and other civic organizations.

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COMING FEATURES

Maurice Evans in *Richard II*
Beginning Oct. 18th for one week only

George M. Cohan in *I'd Rather Be Right*
Opening Oct. 11 for two weeks

Joan Bennett in *Stage Door*
(In person)
Opening Oct. 18th for three weeks

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CAMPUS CRITIC

'The Perfect Plot'

A clever piece of satirical drama was enacted on Saturday night when Barnswallows presented *The Perfect Plot* by Aubrey Ensor for the Barn reception. The play consists of four short plays all dealing with the same eternal triangle plot, but each a new interpretation as it might have been written by four different authors.

Put into the proper mood of the first play by the facetious remarks of the compère, we were prepared to see one of the characters fill a crucial role only to discover that he is in the wrong flat and doesn't belong in that particular set. The curtain rose on a homey Barrie setting where the conversation of elderly Maggie, lover David, and husband John gave an atmosphere of wistfulness, subtle wit, and philosophy so typical of Barrie. Granted that slow tempo was needed, the cues could have been speeded up with no injury to the authenticity of mood, and with better results for the most poorly acted of the four skits.

The frankness of *Private Wives*, as it might have been written by Noel Coward, classed this skit as entertainment of a high degree. The acting of Marian Colwell '39, placed the interpretation at a professional pitch which was not lowered by the convincing work of Harriet Hull '40, as Nicky, one of the husbands, and by the rest of the cast.

A good satire on Pirandello's *Six Characters in search of an Author* was found in *The Man with a Tongue in his Cheek*. The melodramatic touch was here held in check and properly emphasized. The girls appearing for the second time did much better acting. The agitation of the author when he finds his characters out of his control is highly amusing.

The best acting of the evening was done by the cast of *Gloom*, a take-off on the intense drama of Tchekhov. Taking the Russian dramatist for a merry ride, Mr. Ensor created an emotional Alexander Athanasievitch as his agent. Acting by Cynthia Kilburn '39, measured up to the possibilities of this character, and Elizabeth Flanders '38, and Margaret Miller '38 again took their parts well.

Barn is to be commended for putting on a play which was entertaining yet not trivial, intellectually stimulating yet not a problem play.

M. A. P. '39

BARNSWALLOWS HOLD ALL-COLLEGE MEETING

The Barnswallows association held its annual all-college mass meeting in Alumnae hall Monday night. Barn president Virginia Spangler '38 announced that the plays to be presented at Fall Informals on Saturday, October 30, have not yet been decided upon.

Miss Spangler also announced a change of program in this year's dramatic activities. Instead of presenting occasional experimental plays before small audiences as they did last year, Barn members interested in developing their acting ability as widely as possible will comprise an active unit known as the drama committee. This group will rehearse and present plays solely for the experience derived from careful study of various types of dramatic art.

Frances Skinner '38, business-manager of Barn, Susan Barrett '39, vice-president, and Betty Ann Mitchell '38, assistant production manager, spoke on the business aspect of the organization. They were followed by the chairmen of the committees, who outlined the work of their particular groups and urged everyone to participate when try-out days are announced on the index board. The heads of committees are: Jeanne Washburn '38, drama; Natalie Gordon '38, publicity; Narcissa Reeder '38, make-up; Dorothy Rich '38, service; Virginia Chamberlain '39, design; Caroline Farwell '38, scenery; Margaret Platner '38, lighting; Priscilla Barlow '38, properties; and Esther Howard '38, costumes.

TRYOUTS FOR FALL INFORMALS WILL BE HELD WHEN PLAYS HAVE BEEN SELECTED

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BIBLIOFILE

Millen Brand Explores Insanity

The Outward Room by Millen Brand Simon and Schuster, 1937. 310 pages. $1.25.

The Outward Room by Millen Brand is the story of an insane woman's gradual return to mental balance. Harriet Demuth escapes from the incurable ward of a sanitarium and makes her way to New York city. There, after an incredible week she meets John, a machinist, who takes her to live with him. During the next few weeks she assumes more and more responsibilities, makes friendships, obtains and loses a job, falls in love with John and, finally, in their mutual crisis loses completely her fear of return to insanity.

Millen Brand's narrative technique is swift and sure and his sense of the dramatic never fails him. Tense moment succeeds tense moment, yet always tempered by that restraint which makes this book a remarkable achievement.

Mr. Brand has gone straight to the sources in search of materials for this book. He consulted an expert psychologist and visited several sanitariums to make that part of his narrative ring true. His investigation of machine shops and sweated dress goods establishments form the basis of the latter half of the story. And his insight into the character of Harriet has caused many to believe that a woman created her, so searching and intimate are the analyses of her reactions.

Readers will be reminded of the same gemlike quality which marked Thornton Wilder's *Woman of Andros*. The emphasis here is on narrative and characterization, but certain passages stand out for their sheer descriptive beauty and vividness, such as Harriet's room in the sanitarium or early morning in John's flat.

To some *The Outward Room* will appeal as a love story and to others as an analysis of the regeneration of a mind. But all will find in it mature understanding, marked talent and well developed technique.

H. F. '38

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COMMUNITY PLAYHOUSE—Oct. 7, 8, 9: *The Toast of New York* and *Sing and Be Happy.*
LOEW'S STATE and ORPHEUM—Oct. 8 through 14: *The Big City* and *The Women Men Marry.*
PARAMOUNT—Oct. 8 through 14: *They Won't Forget* and *This Way, Please.*

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Calendar

Thursday, Oct. 7: *7:00 A. M. Service of Holy Communion in the Little Chapel. These services are held every Thursday morning during the college year.
*8:15 A. M. Morning Chapel. Gretchen Heuhl, '38, will lead.
Friday, Oct. 8: *8:15 A. M. Morning Chapel. Miss Hughes will lead.
*8:30 A. M. Immediately after chapel on the steps of sophomore entry—Announcement of the house presidents of Beebe, Norumbega and Stone.
*7:15 P. M. Special sing singing in '41, 7:15 P. M. Shakespeare House. Poetry Society meeting. Miss Manwaring will discuss new trends in poetry.
Saturday, Oct. 9: *8:15 A. M. Morning Chapel. Mrs. Hodder will lead.
Sunday, Oct. 10: *11:00 A. M. Memorial Chapel. Preacher, Dr. Charles R. Brown, of the Yale Divinity School.
*7:30 P. M. Memorial Chapel, Candlelight Vesper Service.
Annual membership service of the Christian Association.
Miss Soni Thompson will speak. (Christian Association.)
Monday, Oct. 11: *8:15 A. M. Morning Chapel. Miss McAfee will lead.
Tuesday, Oct. 12: COLUMBUS DAY.
*8:15 A. M. Morning Chapel. Miss Helen Jones will lead.
*11:10 A. M. Farnsworth Art Gallery. Informal talk on Guatemala by Eben F. Comins in connection with an exhibition of his works.
*4:40 P. M. Pendleton Hall. Illustrated lecture by Professor Theodore W. Koch, Librarian at Northwestern University. Subject: "Literary Forgeries of the Nineteenth Century." (Wellesley College Library.)
Wednesday, Oct. 13: *8:15 A. M. Morning Chapel. Mr. Procter will lead.
1:10 P. M. Pendleton Hall. The third of the Mary Whiton Calkins Memorial lectures by Professor Whitehead on "Modes of Thought." Subject: "Understanding." (Department of Philosophy and Psychology.)
6:15-7:30 P. M. Claflin Hall. Current Events dinner discussion. Subject: "The Sino-Japanese Conflict." Tickets for admission may be obtained at the ticket booth, Green Hall, Oct. 11 and 12, 8:30 A. M.—3:30 P. M. (Forum.)
NOTES: *Wellesley College Art Museum. Exhibition of students' work.
Beginning Oct. 11, exhibition of Eben F. Comins' work.
*Open to the public.

BATES FUND ANNOUNCES POETS' READING DATES

(Continued from Page 1, Col. 3)

ture, was enabled to bring to the college many poets for their encouragement and our pleasure.

Would-be Poets Included

Nearly all of the most distinguished American and British poets of our time have presented their poems in person here. It was a principle of Miss Bates which has been followed since the beginning of the readings, that not only older and famous poets should be invited, but also poets who are making their way; and one of the readings is traditionally by one of our numerous alumnae who have published verse. The donor of the fund has made no restrictions, and indeed prefers that it should be used as opportunity offers, for readings and lectures. Usually the same poet appears not more than once in four years, so that each college generation may hear as many poets as possible.

Choir Offers Place To New Accompanist

Try-outs for accompanist of the Wellesley College Choir will take place in room 11, Billings hall at the following hours:

Monday, October 11 from 4:40 to 6 p. m.

Tuesday, October 12 from 4:40 to 6 p. m.

Candidates should be able to play music of the difficulty of an average Beethoven sonata. Please be prepared to play one selection of a rapid or brilliant type, to show technique; and a second selection of a quieter, more expressive nature. Freshmen, sophomores, and juniors are invited to try.

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MISS McAFEE RECEIVES BOSTON ALUMNAE GROUP

President Mildred H. McAfee's home was the scene of the first autumn meeting of the Boston Wellesley club, on Saturday afternoon, October 3. Due to the large number of guests, tea was served in two periods, from three until four, and from four until five, and members were requested to come in groups divided according to where they lived within greater Boston. President McAfee received, along with several officials of the alumnae club.

MLLE. PERNOT STRESSES CARE IN CONVERSATION

"Few students entering college realize the difficulty of understanding spoken French or of making themselves understood," said Mlle. Nicolette Pernot of the department of French in her annual French phonetics lecture at Billings hall last night.

Mlle. Pernot stressed close attention in class, as a necessity for accurate understanding, and particular care in the use of French stress and intonation in conversation.

MUSEUM PRESENTS EBEN F. COMINS

The Wellesley college art museum will present an exhibition of drawings of Guatemalan types from October 11 to 23. Eben F. Comins will talk informally on Guatemala on Tuesday, October 12, at 11:40 A. M.

ALUMNAE NOTES

ENGAGED

Pauline Seidel '36, to Richard Kaltenbaeher, Cornell '36.

You might be standing right next to the most attractive person you ever met, but you don't know it until you are introduced . . . until you get acquainted.

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